IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Siegfried MAYER et al.

Appl. No.:

NEW

Group:

Filed:

July 23, 2003

Examiner:

For:

CIRCUIT APPARATUS

AND

METHOD

FOR

OPERATING A LAMP

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

July 23, 2003

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE:

Please replace the Abstract of the Disclosure with the rewritten Abstract of the Disclosure on a separate sheet attached hereto.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) The circuit apparatus as claimed in claim 1, in which the lamp can be operated in a load circuit that is connected to the inverter device.